

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 10-16 and 18 have been amended; claim 17 has been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein; and new claims 19-30 have been added. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-4, 10-16 and 18-30 will be pending in the application. The specification has been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the December 9, 2004, Official Action is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

1. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication at paragraph 13 of the Official Action that dependent claims 4 and 10 each contain allowable subject matter. Claims 4 and 10 have been rewritten in independent form including the combined features of claims 1 and 4, and claims 1 and 10, respectively. Claim 4 has also been amended as described below to address the objection and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, amended claims 4 and 10 are believed to be allowable.

2. Objections to Specification

The Official Action objects to the disclosure at paragraphs [0015] and [0018] of the specification. As suggested in the Official Action, paragraph [0015] has been amended by changing the term "bivalent" to "monovalent." Paragraph [0018] has been amended to delete the "formula (IV)".

Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

3. Objection to Claims

Claim 4 has been amended to delete the recitation of "[component (i)]."

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

4. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. The reasons for the rejection are stated on pages 2-3 of the Official Action.

Claim 13, as amended, is directed to “a method of producing a thermoset molding.” Support for the amendments to claim 13 is provided, for example, at paragraph [0036] of the specification. Claims 14-16 and 18 have been amended to be consistent with amended claim 13.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

5. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2

Claims 3, 4, 10 and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2. The reasons for the rejection are stated on pages 3-4 of the Official Action.

Claim 3 has been amended to delete the recitation of “preferably aqueous and/or non-aqueous solvents.” New claim 21, which depends from claim 3, recites this subject matter.

Claim 4 has been amended to delete the recitation of “preferably an integer from 10 to 50.” New claim 22, which depends from claim 4, recites this subject matter.

The Official Action states several assertions regarding claim 10. However, the specific language that is referred to in the Official Action is recited in claim 11, not in claim 10. Claim 11 has been amended to depend from claim 1, and to provide antecedent basis for “R”, define “s” and delete the recitation of “preferably 1, 2, or 3.” New claim 23 depends from claim 11 and recites that “r is 1, 2 or 3.”

Claim 14 has been amended to change the term “where appropriate” to “optionally.”

Claim 15 has been amended to delete the recitation of "preferably ... PU casting compositions." New claim 24 recites this subject matter. Also in claim 15, the term "DAP" has been changed to "poly-diallylphthalate resins." Support for this amendment is provided at paragraph [0034] of the specification.

Claims 3, 4, 10 and 13-16 are believed to comply with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

6. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

A. Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,294,007 to Martin. The reasons for the rejection are stated on page 5 of the Official Action. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 4 and original claim 6. Accordingly, because the Official Action indicates that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter, claim 1 is believed to be allowable over Martin. Dependent claims 2 and 3 also are allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

B. Claims 1, 2, 13, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over JP 62-240363 ("JP 363"). The reasons for the rejection are stated on pages 5-6 of the Official Action. Claim 17 has been cancelled. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 also is believed to be allowable over JP 363 in light of the indication that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter. Dependent claims 2, 13 and 18 also are allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

C. Claims 1-3 and 12-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over JP 07-316432 ("JP 432"). The reasons for the rejection are stated on page 6 of the Official Action. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 also is believed to be allowable over JP 432 in light of the indication that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter. Dependent claims 2, 3, 12-16 and 18 also are allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

7. New Claims

New claims 21 and 23-30 depend from claim 1 and, accordingly, also are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

New claim 22 depends from claim 4 and, accordingly, also is allowable.

8. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, withdrawal of the objections and rejections and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that any issues remain in this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: March 5, 2004

By: 

Edward A. Brown
Registration No. 35,033

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620